

is transported on the railroad and have expressed concerns for their own personal health and safety. And so naturally I am very distressed to see common carriers suddenly to be amended out of this bill. I recently became concerned about the issue of hazardous wastes after talking to a lot of the railroad employees out there and as a matter of fact had an opportunity to attend a conference on hazardous wastes last summer in Kansas City which some of the others in this body also attended. I am afraid this is a topic that is not going to go away and, in fact, we will see a lot of bills probably in the future before us dealing with hazardous waste. But one of the things that came out at this conference was the difficulty of identifying the kinds of compounds you are dealing with and, quite frankly, they are not the kind of thing that an ordinary person often knows enough about how to even protect themselves. We had experts there from FEMA talking about the kinds of hazards this presents to individuals and I think it is important that we recognize the fact that whatever system we seem to have in place that is supposed to be protecting workers, in fact, doesn't seem to be working very well. If you have a railroad running through your community or if you have folks working on a railroad, I think the whole issue right here is very important to the health and safety not only of railroad employees but to your entire community. So think about that if you have got railroads running through your area. This is a problem we are going to have to deal with and this is a place to start. So I urge you to put common carriers back in. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Pappas. No? Thought we would hear from you today. Senator Beyer.

SENATOR BEYER: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, question of Senator Vickers. He disappeared.

SENATOR VICKERS: Yes, Senator Beyer.

SENATOR BEYER: You have got a statement on here, Senator Vickers, down here almost to the bottom it says, "Railroad management contends this legislation will be preempted by federal regulations." You say, not true, this legislation is designed to adopt and incorporate federal regulations. Where in the bill does it say that? I guess I...I am either missing something or not reading it in the bill.